

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KATHMA 04739 210431Z

46

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 028

C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 4739

EXDIS

FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S RECENT TRIP

1. DURING THE COURSE OF A CONVERSATION WITH MFA SECRETARY KHATRI NOV 20, I TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO BRIEF HIM ON SECRETARY KISSINGER'S RECENT TRIP TO SOUTH ASIA. DRAWING ON REFTEL # GUIDANCE I REVIEWED THE KEY THEMES OF SECRETARY'S VISIT, NOTABLY SUPPORT FOR SIMLA PROCESS, INTERDEPENDENCE OF WORLD ECONOMY AND ACCEPTANCE OF NONALIGNMENT. I NOTED THAT OUR SUPPORT AND SYMPATHY FOR THE PROCESS OF POLITICAL ACCOMMODATION PRESUPPOSED THAT THIS WOULD BE WITHOUT BIG POWER INTERVENTION AND WOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF ALL STATES IN THE REGION. I ALSO STRESSED THAT US SEEKS AND VALUES A MATURE RELATIONSHIP WITH EACH SOUTH ASIAN STATE BASED ON MUTUAL RESPECT AND RECIPROCAL ADVANTAGE. WHILE USG ACKNOWLEDGED INDIA'S SPECIAL LEADERSHIP ROLE, SECRETARY HAD MADE CLEAR THAT THIS REQUIRED ACCOMMODATION AND RESTRAINT ON THE PART OF INDIA. I ALSO EMPHASIZED THE USG'S INTENTION TO CONTINUE A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH ALL OTHER STATES IN THE REGION.

2. KHATRI WAS EXTREMELY APPECIATIVE OF THIS BRIEFING AND SAID THAT IT CLOSELY PARALLELED EARLIER DISCUSSIONS WITH AMBASSADOR CARGO. HE NOTED THAT NEPAL, LIKE THE US, ACCEPTED THE FACT THAT INDIA'S SIZE AND RESOURCES MADE IT THE PRINCIPAL POWER IN THE REGION. THE GON WELCOMED THE USG
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POSITION AND AGREED THAT INDIA HAD A SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY TO

PURSUE RESTRAINED POLICIES. WITH RESPECT TO NONALIGNMENT THE SECRETARY SAID THAT HE BELIEVE THE US WAS NOW PURSING POLICIES VIS-A-VIS CHINA AND THE SOVIET UNION WHICH CLOSELY PARALLELED NEPAL'S OWN. FROM THE NEPALESE PERSPECTIVE, NONALIGNMENT MEANT THE PURSUIT OF BILATERAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH ALL COUNTRIES AND THE MAKING OF JUDGMENTS ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES ON THEIR MERITS. HE FULLY AGREED THAT FOR THE NONALIGNED TO BECOME A BLOC WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE AND INDEED WOULD BE COUNTER TO THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF NEPAL'S OWN NONALIGNED POLICY.

QUAINTON

NOTE BY OC/T: #REFTEL OMISSION AS RECEIVED

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